



Special Update
City Manager's Office
William P. Yenne, City Manager

For Immediate Release
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Phone: 979-415-2500

City of Lake Jackson
Hurricane Harvey
Weather Update
08/26/17
6pm update

Hurricane Harvey has stalled and is slowly dissipating in strength. The storm is forecast to begin to move south, then eventually north early next week.

However, the National Weather Service is still forecasting that our area could receive up to 15-20 inches of rain over the next 24-72 hours.

Even if the rain doesn't fall on Lake Jackson, if it falls in the area to our north it will potentially cause a substantial Brazos River flood.

The River Forecast Center is calling for the Brazos River to reach major flooding by early to mid-week at Rosharon and West Columbia gauges to stay high for several days. When the Rosharon gauge exceeds 50.8 feet, that is an indication that the river will leave its banks north of the Harris Reservoir once the flood waters reach the reservoir.

When the water leaves the river at the Harris Reservoir it moves eastward and spills into the Oyster Creek watershed and the Bastrop Bayou watershed. Water will build up and then begin to move south along the west side of SH288, eventually moving past the airport and into Lake Jackson. This could occur late next week, into next weekend and into the following week.

The amount of flood water we receive will depend on how long the river stays out of its banks.

We have experienced several Brazos River floods over the years – the most recent in June of 2016.

What we can expect is Oyster Creek to slowly rise and be near bank full. The same appears for Bastrop Bayou.

In June, 2016 the Northwood s/d saw substantial street flooding from the Bastrop Bayou. If the forecast holds, this will likely occur this time as well.

This river flood forecast is dependent on the heavy rainfall predicted by the Weather Service. We will be monitoring this flooding situation closely. We have pre-positioned pumps along the creek in the event the river floods.

Residents along the creek and bayou should prepare for this flooding event.

Our next update will be about 11pm tonight and then again tomorrow morning about 8am.